



# Point of View

The Student Newspaper of ICS

APRIL 2024

## Will the United States Ban TikTok?

by SHINE LEE



Image Source: The Guardian

On March 13, 2024, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill that required the owner of TikTok, ByteDance, to sell the platform or be banned from US app stores. The “Protecting Americans from Foreign Adversary Controlled Applications Act” passed with 352 votes in favor and only 65 against. Under this legislation, ByteDance must divest from the company in 6 months.

This bill was first brought up for the reason of security concerns. The app of TikTok is based in Beijing and falls under China’s controversial cybersecurity laws. A potential scenario would be that the law may require TikTok to hand over U.S. user data to the Chinese Communist Party when requested. The company has denied the allegations that ByteDance is controlled by the Chinese government and is a private company. However, the Republican vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, Marco Rubio, expressed concern and stated that “every company in China is controlled by the Chinese Communist Party” which included ByteDance. US legislators and the White House believed that selling TikTok to a “qualified buyer”, likely to be a Western company, would cut off the influence of the Chinese.

Currently, the bill is opposed by numerous TikTok users, especially by content creators who have been able to monetize their videos to make thousands of dollars a month. Civil and digital rights groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union and the Electronic Frontier Foundation opposed this ban.

Ashley Gorski, an attorney with the ACLU’s National Security Project stated, “Banning TikTok, directly or indirectly, would violate the First Amendment because it would stifle free expression and restrict the public’s access to a critical source

of information. The government can’t impose this type of total ban unless it’s the only way to prevent extremely serious and immediate harm to national security.”

Onlookers have mentioned that TikTok operates similarly to X along with Facebook and Instagram. They say that banning TikTok alone would be a hypocritical act when these other companies have been acting out questionable policies.

## Escaped Ostrich Casually Walks Through Traffic

by LAUREN YI



Image Source: UPI

A male ostrich was seen walking through traffic in Jungwon-gu, Seongnam-si, Gyeonggi-do on the 26th. The police, after receiving a call at 9:30 a.m., searched the nearby roads and found the ostrich near a factory building in Sangdaewon-dong at 10:25 a.m. and captured it safely. Fortunately, there were no casualties or damage caused by the ostrich, named Tadori (타돌이), which was later found to have escaped from a nearby zoo called Bug City. According to Tadori’s caretaker, Tadori managed to escape the zoo by squeezing through a narrow gap between the fences. The caretaker also mentioned that Tadori has been showing signs of loneliness since his mate, Tasuni (타순이), died. Tadori has been with Tasuni ever since they were born in 2020 and was living happily until Tasuni suddenly died last month. The reason why Tadori broke out of the zoo is assumed to be symptoms of anxiety caused by this stressful event. Tadori is currently resting and recovering in his enclosure.

Meanwhile, the story of Sero (세로), a zebra that escaped from Seoul Children's Grand Park last March, is drawing attention again. Sero, after losing his mother and father, also showed abnormal symptoms, such as having a fight with the kangaroo next door or refusing to eat, before he escaped the zoo. Sero was caught by the police after 3 hours and 40 minutes. Like Tadori, there were no casualties, but Sero lightly bumped into a car and one or two bicycles. After Sero was sent back to the zoo, the caretakers introduced him to a female zebra, Coco (코코), to be his new mate. Sero slowly got better and regained energy.

As the news of Tadori and Sero spread on the internet, many people criticized the existence of zoos, and there were opinions that Sero should be returned to his natural hometown, Africa. There were also opposing opinions saying that it's too reckless since Sero has been born and raised in the hand of humans, and likely would not be able to adapt to the African wilderness. The story of Tadori and Sero tells us that the death of a loved one brings deep, unbearable agony, no matter human or animal

SUM(Smart Your Mobility), is the company that developed this car. The instructor has said that "We(SUM) are gathering data from these test runs to fix parts of the algorithm. . . and after there is enough, we plan to put this technology into local buses." But there still remain problems which need to be covered. "It's about who gets the blame in an accident." The instructor pointed out this as the main task which needs to be solved first.

Furthermore, when the surrounding is crowded with people or cars, the computer will have a hard time gathering data, and won't even be able to drive at all. Illegally parked cars, and rough drivers don't help this either. It looks like it will be a long time before we will be using them in cities, where the chaos is bigger.

---



---

## Gangneung's Self-Driving Car

by JIHOON CHOI

---



Image Source: Author

It would be uncommon to be able to ride a self-driving car in Incheon now, but not in Gangneung. After its launch in 2023, there are now four Carnivals and a small bus-like car modified to drive itself. It is free to ride, and it takes you to places in Gangneung. Though the idea was exciting at first, unfortunately, I was disappointed as it didn't use AI, neither was it humanless.

The first thing that caught my eye were the huge computers at the trunk, which at random times made whirring noises. After 60,000(!) pictures from the sensors attached to the car are delivered, the computer, using algorithmic methods, decides which way to go with help from a GPS tracker. This all happens in a second, which is why it needs to cool itself down(and make the whirring noises).

There is an instructor sitting on the driver's seat who would answer questions about the car, seldom grabbing the handle when the car malfunctions. The car, most of the time, felt normal. Still, its unique nature made the ride bumpy, as instead of stopping smoothly, it stepped and let go of the brakes repeatedly, made swift, unexpected turns, and swayed left and right on plain road.

---



---

## 4th Medical Revolution

by YEONJEONG JEON

---

Personalized medicine is at the forefront of the Fourth Industrial Revolution in healthcare and is changing the way we diagnose, treat, and manage disease. By incorporating personalized treatment strategies that take into account individual genetic and physiological variations, this approach maximizes the effectiveness of medical interventions while minimizing risks and side effects. The key to personalized medicine lies in advanced genetic analysis and biomarker identification, which allows medical professionals to predict how patients will respond to specific medications. This proactive stance not only improves patient safety, but also ensures that treatment plans are tailored to each individual's unique biology to optimize treatment outcomes.

In the area of infectious disease control, personalized medicine enables precise targeting of pathogens by analyzing the genetic makeup of the host along with its immune response. By identifying genetic variations in both pathogens and patients, clinicians can create personalized treatment protocols to achieve better outcomes and reduce the risk of antibiotic resistance. Moreover, personalized medicine is making significant progress in the field of oncology, where tumor genome profiling can identify specific genetic mutations that drive cancer growth. This knowledge will facilitate the development of targeted therapies that selectively attack cancer cells while sparing healthy tissue, thereby minimizing the toxicities associated with traditional chemotherapy and improving patients' quality of life.

Integrating personalized medicine into clinical practice represents a pivotal advancement in healthcare, promising more precise, effective, and safer interventions. By tailoring treatment to each patient's unique biology, personalized medicine has the potential to not only improve outcomes but also reduce healthcare costs by preventing unnecessary treatments and complications. As personalized medicine continues to advance, it is poised to revolutionize healthcare delivery, usher in a new era of precision medicine, and transform the patient experience.

## Sabrina and Steph Three Point Shootout

by MINSEOP CHIN



Image Source: NBA

In the 2024 NBA All-Star week, Golden State Warriors star Stephan Curry challenged one of the best shooters in WNBA history, New York Liberty star Sabrina Ionescu, in the three-point contest. Both stars were considered shooting rivals as Sabrina's career high in the three-point contest was greater than Steph's once, scoring 37 out of 40 in the 2023 All-Star 3-point contest. This was a fascinating record as Steph is currently the best shooter in NBA history, scoring 3,577 3-points in regular season, which is still the highest record in NBA history.

February 19 came, which was the date of the All-Star event, and the event began with the three point contest between both rivals. Many of them were looking into this event as not only both shooters were considered rivals and could finally determine which shooter is better, but it was the first time in NBA All-Star history which a NBA and WNBA player competed in the three point contest. As many have expected, it was a heated competition between both elite shooters. Sabrina Ionescu, managed to score 18 out of 27 shots, starting seven from seven. Some of them were worth one point, but the other ones which are commonly known as money balls were worth two points, which gave her a total of 26 points. She shot from the NBA three-point line as the WNBA three-point line is slightly closer to the rim. However, she used the WNBA ball which is slightly smaller than the NBA official ball as the hand size of women player's are slightly smaller than men's. Steph Curry on the other hand, managed to perfectly score 5 out of 5 on both right and left wing. He needed to go for at least 3 out of 5 in the money back rack in order to win this whole competition. He missed the first shot but managed to complete the rest of the 4 shots and tailed a score of 29. Overall, Steph Curry managed to beat Sabrina Ionescu. Both legends hugged each other at the end and showed manners to each other, presenting that it was a good match between themselves.

## Women in Baseball

by BRAIN CHOI



Image Source: Google

The other day I was chatting with my friend and the conversation went something like this: “Shohei Ohtani just got married.” “Who’s that?” “A baseball player.” “Guy or girl.” “There is no women’s baseball” “Why?” “I don’t know.”, it was a good question. There are women in other sports such as golf, tennis, basketball, and even American football but there is no women’s baseball. Why is that? Historically, baseball is very conservative compared to other sports, the sport was only meant for guys which caused the girls to go play softball and that tradition stemmed from segregation unfortunately stuck until this day. Many girls who play baseball at a young age will either switch to softball or just give up on the sport entirely due to this invisible barrier. But on the bright side, there were still women who never gave up on their dreams entirely and found their own paths into the sport of baseball as coaches, GMs, or even a sideline reporter. So, in celebration of International Women’s Month (March is International Women’s Month), we will be looking at three important female figures in baseball: Alyssa Nakken, Heidi Watney, and Kim Ng. Alyssa Nakken became the first woman to become a fulltime coach in the history of baseball. When the Giants were making the first group of staff for their new manager Gabe Kapler, Nakken was appointed as an assistant coach and served as the first base coach in an exhibition game which marked the first time a woman was on-field during a MLB game – though it was unofficial. Some months later, Nakken became the first women to be on-field during a MLB game when she was substituted as the first base coach when the initial coach was ejected from the game. Well it seems Nakken just can’t stop breaking history, she recently was just interviewed for the managerial position and though she eventually failed to get the job, she became the first woman to be interviewed for such a position.

If you watch MLB on Apple TV+, you might have seen Heidi Watney during a game. She worked as a sideline reporter for MLB Network in the past nine years and just recently switched to Apple TV+ in 2022. Whether it is in between innings or a pitching change you can rely on Heidi Watney to bring some fun facts for you to enjoy. Yes, this might not seem as groundbreaking as the case for Nakken but that is just the cover. Think about some commentators in other sports, Stephen

A. Smith in Basketball, Roy Keane, Gary Neville, and Thierry Henry in Soccer, Bruce Buffer in UFC, there are only men in these jobs. Heidi Watney might not have a fancy title as Nakken or Kim Ng but she is definitely a minority working in a male dominated field.

Speaking of Kim Ng, she is the one that broke most headlines a couple years ago. In 2020, the Miami Marlins sacked their General Manager and baseball legend Derek Jeter after a series of failures. Jeter might have been a legend at the game, he has an IQ of a donut when it comes to building a team. Unsurprisingly, when Jeter got fired, Marlins fans celebrated but his replacement, Kim Ng, brought a whole new controversy to the team. The first and largest (and probably the only) controversy was the new General Manager was a 'she'. Fans gave out disapproving eyes and even said they could do a better job without knowing what Ng has already accomplished. Ng had been working in the industry as an Assistant GM for thirty years and also won three consecutive World Series with the New York Yankees in 1998, 1999, and 2000, so in short, she knows what she is doing. Through the three years with the Marlins, Ng signed their ace pitcher Sandy Alcantara to an extension, led the team to a Wild Card berth in 2023, and signed Jorge Soler to a team-friendly contract and he hit 36 home runs for the Marlins in 2023. The accomplishments of Ng have already surpassed Derek Jeter's and fans were anticipating another successful campaign in 2024 but unfortunately Ng has left her position as General Manager after learning the team was looking for a President of Baseball Operations which would put her second-in-position. As of now, it is unknown what team Ng would move to or if she received any offers at all but her tenure with the Marlins would always be remembered.

---



---

## FILM REVIEW: *Monster*

by YESEONG LEE

---



Image Source: The New Yorker

“Who is the Monster?”

While watching *Monster*, the audience looks for who the Monster is. In Part One, from the perspective of Saori Mugino,

a single mom, Mr. Hori, the teacher of her son, is recognized as a Monster who abused Minato Mugino (Saori's son) resulting in Minato's strange behaviors. In Part Two, from the perspective of Mr. Hori, Saori is recognized as a monster parent (japanese term characterizing irrational parent) who uses her son to abuse teachers. By watching both parts, the audience understands both perspectives. However, by these, “misunderstandings” are made and resolved repeatedly, and these misunderstandings are woven into the unique structure. In Part Three, from the perspective of Minato, the structure of misunderstandings is completely resolved through delicate Kore-eda's directing, and the audience finally understands. In the last scene, this understanding comes beautifully with Ryuichi Sakamoto's music, and the audience realizes under the sunlight that the real Monster is the self who was looking for the Monster.

---



---

## Are aliens real?

by JULIE SONG

---

There are many instances where people have claimed to have seen aliens or UFOs. But can we prove the existence of aliens? There are many pictures of UFOs and declarations but many of them are in a debate whether they exist or not – meaning that the fact that aliens exist is not fully proven. Just think about it, do you think humans are the only living creatures in the universe? The universe is extraordinarily large, and humans cannot be only living things. I believe that there will be some other creatures, maybe not aliens. There are many incidents of aliens with human interactions. Interest in UFOs and extraterrestrial life has been hot since the release of the U.S. government's UFO report on June 25, 2021. The United States, which has the world's best military and aviation technology, concluded that "UFOs are not weather phenomena, but they exist as reality, but they don't seem to be made by humans." This is 'If it's not made by humans and it's not mistaken for a natural phenomenon, where on earth did it come from?' It led to the question. So far, the reporter has covered the stories of several national fighter pilots who have witnessed UFOs and the stories of people who have seen alien life. In the process, the reporter learned of the phenomenon of 'abduction by aliens' and met experienced claimants living in the United States. The interview was conducted between September and early October. Not only this but there is lots of evidence of witnesses which could be true about the existence of aliens.

---



---

